



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/580,113	05/19/2006	Sadayuki Aoki	056208.57745US	7511
23911 7590 06/19/2007 CROWELL & MORING LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP P.O. BOX 14300 WASHINGTON, DC 20044-4300			EXAMINER FRISTOE JR, JOHN K	
			ART UNIT 3753	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/19/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/580,113

Applicant(s)

AOKI, SADAYUKI

Examiner

John K. Fristoe Jr.

Art Unit

3753

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 May 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/19/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 5/19/2006 is acknowledged by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear to the examiner if the two “portions” are different members or the same member. This ambiguity would be cleared by naming the second “portion” something else.
4. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear to the examiner what the “plural rugs” are in claim 12 line 3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 9-11, 13, and 14 as well as claims 1-7 and 12 as far as they are definite, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,979,405 (Sato et al.). Sato et al. disclose a throttle device comprising a throttle body (1), an air intake passage (leads to element 5), a throttle valve (5), a motor (2), a motor casing (1C), a portion (adjacent the lead ling

Art Unit: 3753

for element 2A in figure 1), a portion or yoke (2C) having notches (the connection of element 2C and 2 in figure 1), projections or lugs (curved portions of element 9 in figure 2), wherein the projections deform and are elastic (col. 3, lines 4-5), wherein the projections (9) are arranged circumferentially (figure 2), wherein the motor (2) is clearance fitted (relationship between element 2 and 1), a motor guide (the backward "Z" shaped portion of element 1 in figure 1 adjacent the lead line for element 2A), a clearance fitted motor mounting flange (7), and a bearing boss (surface of element 2C).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 8 as far as it is definite is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,979,405 (Sato et al.) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,868,114 (Kamimura et al.). Sato et al. disclose a throttle device comprising a throttle body (1), an air intake passage (leads to element 5), a throttle valve (5), a motor (2), a motor casing (1C), a portion (adjacent the lead line for element 2A in figure 1), a portion or yoke (2C) having notches (the connection of element 2C and 2 in figure 1), projections or lugs (curved portions of element 9 in figure 2), wherein the projections deform and are elastic (col. 3, lines 4-5), wherein the projections (9) are arranged circumferentially (figure 2), wherein the motor (2) is clearance fitted (relationship between element 2 and 1), a motor guide (the backward "Z" shaped portion of element 1 in figure 1 adjacent the lead line for element 2A), a clearance fitted motor mounting flange (7), and a

Art Unit: 3753

bearing boss (surface of element 2C) but lacks a taper on the inside surface of the motor casing. Kamimura et al. teach a throttle valve comprising a throttle body (2), a motor (10), and a motor casing (2b) having a taper (figure 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the throttle valve of Sato et al. by making the inside surface of the motor casing tapered in view of Kamimura et al. in order to making assembly more easy.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,860,466 (Sakurai et al.) disclose a throttle valve having a motor casing that has a tapered surface.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,067,958 (Kamimura et al.) disclose a throttle valve having a motor casing that has a tapered surface.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John K. Fristoe Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-4926. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7: 00 a.m-4: 30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric S. Keasel can be reached on (571) 272-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3753

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/John K. Fristoe Jr./
John K. Fristoe Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 3753

JKF